

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventorship D'Souza
 Applicant Microsoft Corporation
 Attorney's Docket No. MS1-535US
 Title: Method and Systems for DLL/COM Redirection

1c854 U.S. PTO
 09/605137
 06/27/00

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

References -- See Attached Form PTO-1449

REMARKS

The citations listed, copies attached, are submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR §1.56. The Examiner is requested to make these citations of official record in this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 6/27/00

By James R. Banowsky
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APPLICANT'S STATEMENT REGARDING FIRST USE

This statement is presented by Applicant to explain issues regarding first use of the implementations described in the accompanying Application For Letters Patent (Attorney's Docket Number MS1-535US).

This patent application claims a filing date of 3/27/2000 by way of provisional patent application serial number 60/192,170 filed on that date, titled "DLL/COM Redirection."

At least some of the features disclosed in the provisional application and the present application were included in a beta release of Windows 98, Second Edition dated 2/22/1999. Therefore, at least some of the operating system code incorporating the described implementations was disclosed more than one year from the claimed filing date. In light of this, the present application does not purport to claim any rights in an operating system having the described capabilities.

However, it is significant to note that only the code was released on 2/22/99. No documentation describing how to create software to use the described features was released to the public until 11/1999, when such documentation was posted on the Microsoft Developers Network (www.msdn.com). Therefore, the feature was not disclosed to the extent that it could be enabled, even by one skilled in the art.

As a result, the present patent application claims methods for utilizing the operating system features, methods for creating a software application that utilizes the operating system features, computer-readable media containing instructions that utilize the operating system features, a computer system configured to utilize the operating system features, and a data structure for utilizing the operating system features. Prior to the filing date of 3/27/2000, the public was not enabled to perform the methods or create the system or data structure as claimed. Therefore, Applicant believes submission of these claims in this application is proper.

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